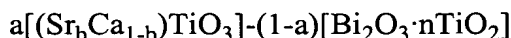


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A dielectric ceramic comprising:

a primary constituent represented by general formula (1):



(wherein a and b indicate molar amounts, and n indicates a molar ratio of  $\text{TiO}_2$  to

5  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ ); and

a secondary constituent represented by general formula (2):



(wherein x, y, and z indicate weight amounts per 100 parts by weight of the primary constituent, m is 1 to 2, and Ln is at least one element selected from the group

10 consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Dy, Ho and Er), and

wherein a, b, n, x, y, and z satisfy the expressions

$$0.88 \leq a \leq 0.92,$$

$$0.3 \leq b \leq 0.5,$$

$$1.8 \leq n \leq 3,$$

15  $1 \leq x \leq 3,$

$$0.1 \leq y \leq 2, \text{ and}$$

$$0 < z \leq 3.$$

2. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the secondary constituent further comprises  $\text{TiO}_2$ , and the  $\text{TiO}_2$  content is such as to satisfy the expression  $0 < p \leq 1.5$ , wherein p is the molar ratio of the element Ti to the element Ln in the secondary constituent.

3. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2, wherein p is 0.5 to 1.5.

4. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3, wherein the secondary constituent further comprises  $\text{SiO}_2$ , and the  $\text{SiO}_2$  content is such as to satisfy the

expression  $0 < w \leq 1$ , wherein  $w$  is the weight of  $\text{SiO}_2$  per 100 parts by weight of the primary constituent.

5. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 4, wherein  $w$  is 0.5 to 1.
6. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 5, wherein  $\text{Ln}$  is  $\text{La}$ .
7. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 6, wherein  $b$  is 0.45 to 0.5,  $x$  is 1 to 2.5,  $y$  is 0.2 to 2 and  $z$  is 0.2 to 2.
8. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the secondary constituent further comprises  $\text{SiO}_2$ , and the  $\text{SiO}_2$  content is such as to satisfy the expression  $0 < w \leq 1$ , wherein  $w$  is the weight of  $\text{SiO}_2$  per 100 parts by weight of the primary constituent.
9. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 8, wherein  $w$  is 0.5 to 1.
10. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein  $\text{Ln}$  is  $\text{La}$ .
11. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein  $b$  is 0.45 to 0.5,  $x$  is 1 to 2.5,  $y$  is 0.2 to 2 and  $z$  is 0.2 to 2.
12. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 10; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
13. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 8; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
14. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 7; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.

15. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 6; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
16. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 5; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
17. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 4; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
18. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
19. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
20. A ceramic electronic component comprising:  
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1; and  
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.